

Message Text

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16

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 OIC-02 AGR-05 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01

CIEP-01 SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01

OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-06 NEA-09 ARA-06 AF-06 /124 W

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R 130733Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4816

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION OECD PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, AS

SUBJ: GOA RESPONSE TO U.S. PROPOSAL FOR DISCUSSION OF GRAIN

RESERVES

REF: (A) CANBERRA 8266; (B) STATE 279906

1. SUMMARY: IN JAN 10 LETTER SIGNED BY ACTING ASST. SECRETARY STAREY, DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS HAS REPLIED TO EMBASSY'S DEC. 24 LETTER (REF A) AND ACCEPTED OUR INVITATION TO PARTICIPATE IN AD HOC MEETING TO DISCUSS WORLD GRAIN RESERVES IN LONDON FEB. 10-11 (REF B). LETTER ALSO REQUESTS FURTHER INFORMATION.
END SUMMARY.

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2. SUBSTANTIVE PORTIONS OF LETTER STATE:

QTE WE APPRECIATE POSITIVE ROLE WHICH U.S. IS PLAYING IN THIS IMPORTANT ISSUE AND WE SHALL BE PLEASED TO ATTEND MEETING IN LONDON.

QTE WE NOTE THAT INVITATION HAS BEEN EXTENDED AGAINST BACKGROUND OF A PROPOSAL BY SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER TO WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE IN ROME, THAT THE CONFERENCE ORGANIZE A MAJOR GRAIN EXPORTERS AND IMPORTERS GROUP TO AGREE ON AN INTERNATIONAL SYSTEM OF NATIONALLY HELD GRAIN RESERVES.

QTE ... POSSIBLE FUTURE ACTION ON WORLD FOOD SECURITY IN RELATION TO GRAINS WAS DISCUSSED DURING COURSE OF INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN U.S. AND AUSTRALIAN GOVT. OFFICIALS IN WASHINGTON ON 3 DEC 1974. WE SHOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO REAFFIRM THAT IT WOULD SEEM TO US DESIRABLE FOR FORTHCOMING MEETING TO BE SEEN ALSO AS A FOLLOW-UP TO OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH 3 OF RESOLUTION XVII OF THE WORLD FOOD CONFERENCE.

QTE WE SHOULD LIKE TO REFER AS WELL TO DECISION OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL AT ITS 71ST SESSION TO SET UP A SPECIAL GROUP WITHIN FRAMEWORK OF THE COUNCIL TO UNDERSTAKE SUCH WORK AS MIGHT BE DECIDED IN REGARD TO POSSIBLE BASES OF A NEW INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT. WHILE QUESTION OF THE GROUP'S TERMS OF REFERENCE IS TO BE DECIDED AT A SPECIAL SESSION OF COUNCIL IN FEBRUARY, IT IS APPARENT THAT RESERVES WILL BE A KEY ELEMENT IN ANY NEW WHEAT ARRANGEMENT. AT THE SAME TIME, IT IS EQUALLY APPARENT THAT WHEAT WILL BE MAJOR COMPONENT OF ANY RESERVES SYSTEM.

QTE IT WOULD THEREFORE SEEM TO US APPROPRIATE FOR MEETING ON 10 AND 11 FEB. TO CONSIDER, INSOFAR AS WHEAT IS CONCERNED, THE DESIRABILITY OF FUTURE DISCUSSIONS AND WORK BEING HELD AND CARRIED FORWARD UNDER THE AUSPICES OF INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL'S SPECIAL GROUP.

QTE WE WOULD BE GLAD TO RECEIVE FROM YOU IN DUE COURSE A DRAFT AGENDA AND BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION FOR MEETING. WE WOULD ALSO APPRECIATE INFORMATION CONCERNING CHAIARMSHIP AND THE LIST OF INVITEES TO THE MEETING, PARTICULARLY THE LEVEL OF REPRESENTATION
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ENVISAGED BY USG AND WHICH, IF ANY, INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS HAVE BEEN INVITED TO ATTEND.

QTE FINALLY, WE WOULD WELCOME YOUR VIEWS ON DESIRABILITY OF A MEETING BEFOREHAND OF EXPORTERS. THIS QUESTION WAS ALSO CANVASSED AT THE INFORMAL WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS REFERRED TO EARLIER AND THERE WAS SUBSTANTIVE AGREEMENT THAT SUCH A MEETING MIGHT DESIRABLY BE HELD IN LONDON PRIOR TO THE SPECIAL SESSION OF

INTERNATIONAL WHEAT COUNCIL. END QTE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE SOONEST DRAFT
AGENDA, BACKGROUND DOCUMENTATION AND OTHER INFORMATION MENTIONED
FINAL THREE SENTENCES OF DFA LETTER.
GREEN

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Message Attributes

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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